

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)  
Food and Drug Administration  
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061  
Rockville, Maryland 20852

4/28/99

2555 '99 MAY -4 P1:50

Sir/Madam,

I am writing to you about Docket # 98N-1038, "Irradiation in the Production, Processing, and Handling of Food". I believe that the FDA should continue with the current labeling law. The use of the radura symbol should be on all irradiated foods and the terminology of "treated with radiation" or "treated by irradiation" continue to be used.

In the FDA's original petition it was concluded that irradiation was a "material fact" concerning the processing of food and for this reason should be disclosed to the consumer. This material fact remains and therefore labeling should continue. Consumers have a right to know what there food is treated with. The texture of some foods are changed with irradiation. Nutrient loss in fruits and vegetables is another effect of irradiation. With disclosure of irradiation consumers can make choices.

The requirement for irradiation disclosure (both label and radura) should not be let to expire. Even if the FDA approves irradiation as safe, it's long term effect on humans has not been verified. Consumers have the right to know if there food has been irradiated.

Sincerely,



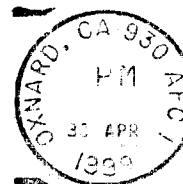
Lori Prehn

98N-1038

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